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HISTORY OF STANLEY PIONEERS

Compiled By

Mrs. Arthur Pringle

August 8, 1934



Early Photograph of Author

This historical paper was read by
the author during the ceremonies
celebrating the one hundredth
anniversary of the Village of
Stanley.

To try to piece together a really correct history of Stanley, at this late date, when no records have been kept and only a few of the grandchildren of the early settlers are alive to tell us the tales they can remember having been told them by their grand-parents, is an interesting, yet unsatisfactory effort.

Stanley owes its birth to the N.B. and N.S. Land Co. This company was incorporated by Royal Charter from the British Government in 1834 with a capital of £200,000 with power to raise the amount to £400,000. They bought from the N.B. Government half a million acres of some of the best farming land in the Province for the sum of £56,000. This land was situated between the St. John and the Miramichi Rivers, with a few exceptions of a few districts previously granted.

As we celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of the founding of Stanley, our thoughts turn to the early settlers here and we try to picture the great struggle they made and the privations they endured in hewing out homes in the wilderness which had hitherto been the undisputed haunts of the beasts of the forest. For in August, 1834 were fallen the first trees toward clearing the land for settlement.

In this year, the British Government sold to the N. B. and N. S. Land Co. half a million acres of some of the best farming land in the Province for £56,000. This land was situated between the St. John and the Miramichi Rivers. This company, in 1834, incorporated by Royal Charter, had a capital of £200,000 with power to raise this amount to £400,000. The following were the officers.

Governor of Co. John Labouchers - Esq.

Directors

1940. The author is grateful to Dr. J. C. G. van der Steene for his help in the preparation of the manuscript.

Sir John Burke Bart
Geo. Henry Hooper, Esq.
John Moxon, Esq.
Ambrose Humphreys, Esq.
Joseph Kay, Esq.
Davis Stuart, Esq.
John F. Murray, Esq.

Directors, cont'd.

John Wright, Esq.
L. P. Wilson, Esq.

Acting Directors
Commissioner at F'ton.

John Bainbridge, Esq.
E. N. Kendall, Esq. R.N.

Colonial Treasurers

Joseph Cunard, Esq.,
Chatham, N. B.
The Hon. Samuel Cunard,
Halifax, N. S.

The object of this company was ostensibly to encourage immigration from the over-crowded parts of the homeland and give employment to them in clearing land, making roads, etc. We must remember that this was a time of depression in the British Isles from various causes and very great numbers emigrated to Canada. Many of these people had been tenants in the Old Country and found great happiness in owning something they could call their own. Every stroke of the axe or every furrow turned meant something accomplished for himself and family.

The surveying party started from Fredericton, in July, 1834, ran an almost straight line from the Old Royal Road at Nashwaaksis to the Nashwaak at Stanley.

After a survey of the surrounding country, it was considered a suitable spot for a centre of operations and as a town site. One of the first things done was to build a shelter for Mr. Kendall, the Commissioner, and a rough shed to shelter the men until a better accommodation could be provided. Ackerman's (1836) thus describes Mr. Kendall's shelter -- "A number of 20 foot poles were arranged so as to meet in the centre. This was covered with a spruce bark securely fastened to the poles. A flooring of spruce boughs, a buffalo robe, a tea-kettle, a pannican and a tin dish completed the furnishings." Then shacks were built for the men on the flat near the present mill site; also cook house, dining shed and other necessary preparations for work were made.

The company brought with them trained workmen and overseers, also tools and other equipment. Many who had been living in New Brunswick flocked here looking for work. In connection with this, an amusing story is told about the axes. These men accustomed to felling trees found the axes unsuitable for the work, and were told to make a model and

the Company would send it to England to a factory and have axes made. Accordingly, a model was made and in wood, but without an eye. This was forwarded to England and in due time the axes arrived, accurately copied, even to the absence of the eye.

This year also, men were busy engaged building the road from Royal Road to Stanley. This work was under contract to Mr. Frank Kerr. One party of men were under Mr. McAloon, grandfather of the present McAloon's.

By October, 1834, we find nine acres of land chopped and two acres cleared on the west side of road and twelve acres chopped on east. There was also a store. Store-keeper's house, Millwright's house, Men's boarding house, Blacksmith's shop, Ox-shed, Millwright's workshop, Carpenter's shed, Tavern, and one other dwelling, also a saw-pit and a shingle-makers' camp, which shows that they used whip-sawn lumber and hand-split shingles before the mill was ready for use. I might add that the brook coming down from behind the buildings on west side of the road, first crossed the road and flowed in front of Malone's home to the river. In 1837 we find its course changed flowing straight to the river as it now is. This is shown on an old map drawn by P. Harry, who also drew several of the pictures in Ackerman's collection published in 1836.

In August, 1835, we find the sawmill ready for use and the tavern well advanced. It was in this year that Bishop Ingallis made his noted trip to Stanley. He was a son of the first Bishop of Nova Scotia, which diocese also included New Brunswick. I quote from his own account of the trip.

"Thursday August 20th -- A fine day in which we were in great need. Lady Campbell had kindly provided for our transport across the river at an early hour, on our way towards Stanley (thirty-three miles). Mr. Kendall, the agent of the New Brunswick Land Co. under whose superintendance the new settlement of Stanley has been formed, provided conveyance for us and accompanied us. The Rev. Dr. Jacob met us at the church of St. Mary's on Nashwaak river (thirteen miles) to which place the Archdeacon accompanied us. The Church was consecrated and ten persons were confirmed. We then proceeded as far as carriages could be used, thirteen miles on the road to Miramichi; at this point the road to Stanley turns suddenly to the left, through a deep forest and is no more at present than a bad horse path (seven miles). The most of our party took this part; I preferred the novelty of

a passage on the river by batteau." Before quoting further, let us consider where this wood road was. Twenty-six miles up the Nashwaak had taken them far from the new road being built from the Royal Road at Nashwaaksis. The Campbell road from Taymouth to English Settlement was authorized to be built about ten years later. Some of our older people think this was the old lumber road from McLaggan's to the Red Rock Road Settlement and continuing by a log road to meet the Stanley Road. To quote further -- "Our boat was drawn by a horse, which was obliged to travel in the river with a man on its back. We did not reach Stanley until some time after dark. We were received with torches and bonfires, which afforded a brilliant light. One hundred and fifty acres are now cleared and most of this cleared land under crop. The house in which we lodged has been built for an inn, and like all the other houses and cottages, displays excellent architectural taste."

Mr. and Mrs. Kendall has brought from Fredericton everything that was necessary for our comfort and by their very kind attention, made this visit to the woods a very delightful part of our excursion.

Friday, Aug. 21st -- The hours here, like all things else are very primitive, and at six o'clock a congregation of sixty persons were assembled in a shed which was conveniently prepared for our services. I preached the first sermon that was delivered on the spot and endeavored to adapt it to the time and the place. After the service, I baptised a child, the second born in the place. I rode rapidly through every part of this interesting settlement and was particularly struck by the commanding situation of the Church Hill, the spot already allotted as a site for a church for which a design had already been prepared. There is also a very superior saw-mill. Not being aware of the length and the badness of the road, nor the employment which would engage me at Stnaley, I had prepared to meet the Vestry, Church-wardens and parishioners of Fredericton at two o'clock. In hope of hastening my return, I embarked in the boat, thinking that a strong current would accelerate my progress; but after advancing twelve miles, I gladly disembarked, and thankfully accepted a seat in a gig, which was offered by a gentleman who was passing. Finding that I was anxious to press forward, he kindly forced his way over a wretched road and through heavy showers at the rate of eight miles an hour for twelve miles, although with great risk to his carriage and his companion as well as himself."

At this early time, all supplies were brought up the river by boat. Some of these boats were 36 feet long and three feet wide, made from a single tree. They are sometimes referred to as the Durham boats. A stout horse was attached to the boat with a man to guide him along the bed of the stream where slippery rocks hidden obstructions, and the deep holes caused discomfort to both horse and rider.

Let us now refer to some of the early names that we can trace. This year Col. Haynes succeeded Mr. Kendall as Commissioner and resident agent. Mr. Stead was the Company's architect. He later moved to St. John where he designed many, both private and public, houses. Mr. Britt was the millwright and superintended the building of the sawmill. Mr. Leonard was a scaler and surveyor for the Company. He built a house and store near Harry Rogers' home. He later kept the Company's store in the old Keswick building near the store now occupied by Richard's & Co. Mr. Murray was the first gardner. Later moved to farm now owned by Thomas Hawkes. He is remembered by some of the older people as a scholar and a gentleman. He was later school inspector. His black-thorn cane, a keepsake of his father's, is prized by a neighbor as a valuable souvenir. Mr. and Mrs. Brewer were the first to run the Inn. They were English people who came early to Stanley. Afterwards kept a tavern in Old London House, near Mrs. Sarah Sansom's home. They move to farm owned by Dan. White at the present time. Here their son was born. Hearing of some money for them in England they went home but later returned.

Billy Martin was first butler at the Inn; spent latter part of his life in Fredericton and was always anxious to discuss Stanley affairs with any of the residents he met.

William P. Kay, who drew a number of the pictures published in Ackerman's 1836, remained a few years longer in Stanley.

Mr. Elliot was blacksmith for the Company. He and his family were here during the first years of operations and remained here.

Mr. John Reid was one of the earliest workmen. Born in 1815 at Bally-Kelly, in the County of Londonderry, less than ten miles from his father and the rest of the family. They landed in St. John, coming to Fredericton by boat. The father and family settled in Tay Creek which had been settled

a number of years before Stanley. Mr. John Reid spent three years in Fredericton learning the trade of carpentry and house building with Mark Needham. Hearing of the contemplated work here, he decided to try his fortune here. He first obtained work on the new road, then on the dam and mill. He continued working for the Company until they ceased operation for the speedy settlement of their lands in 1837. In 1836 he married a Miss Samson, a native of Ireland. Mr. Reid then obtained a grant of land between Cross Creek and Ward Settlement but later sold to John Douglass and his son and his grandson still live on the farm.

Mr. Hugh Strawbridge was another early workman. He married a sister of Mrs. John Reid and local history names her as the first woman in Stanley. They later lived on the Arnold farm and after Mr. Strawbridge's death, she married Mr. Sullivan, father of the late Phillip Sullivan.

Mr. Leonard Kelly was one of the first New Brunswickers on the ground. He was an expert canoe-man and poled Bishop Inglis up the river on his noted trip in 1835. He was the son of the U.E. Loyalist who received a grant of land in Kingsclear in 1784. In 1836 he married a Miss MacKay, also of U.E. Loyalist descent. Their son, John Kelly, is still living at the ripe old age of 96 years. Mr. Kelly settled on the farm now owned by Allan Gilmore, but the house was on the Cross Creek road, near Robert Kerlin's home. Mr. Reid and Mr. Kelly are said to have met on Stanley hill as one arrived by foot and the other by boat. Mrs. Reid and Mrs. Kelly sewed by hand the first bolts for the grist mill.

Mr. Jas. Malone was a carpenter, a native of Ireland, but late of St. John. After working some time here, he returned to St. John, then came back again and married a Miss Elliot, then went back to St. John again where the late James Malone was born. After making several trips to Ireland as ship's carpenter, he returned to Stanley and remained there.

Mr. Hugh Stuart was one of the 42 who were given grants of land along the Nashwaak after the close of the War of Independence. Not pleased with his grant, he came to Stanley and settled on the present farm which then comprised present Larsen, Gilmore and Jarvis farms. This was from ten to fifteen years before the Company began operations. Their house was on the opposite side of the river from the present one.

When we stop to consider the privations of such a pioneer life, we wonder at the indomitable will and sturdy independence of the race. No neighbors nearer than the 42 grants on one side and Tay Creek on the other, no conveyance except by boat in summer and by ice in winter. They could secure few comforts. I am told that they swept the snow from the ice for a threshing floor to thresh their wheat. Then often it must have been necessary to grind it by hand between stones or eat it boiled whole. There was no mill other than the mouth of the Nashwaak.

When the late James Stuart was four years old, his mother died and he was taken to Penniac to a family of Wade's where he remained until his sisters were old enough to care for the home, when he was brought home where he lived until he died at the ripe old age of 91 years. Alert and active with a few grey hairs, his appearance belied his age. His mother was a Miss Dennison.

Mr. Stuart divided his farm with his brother-in-law, Mr. Stinson, who lived on the present Larsen farm, and deeds were given by the N. B. and N. S. Land Co. Mr. Stinson sold his farm to Gilmore Brothers and it was divided into the Larsen and Howe farms, the latter now owned by Edward Jarvis.

Terry McCrae was another old-timer. His picture is recognized on one of the Ackerman prints. He came to an untimely end, having hanged himself in a fit of despondency on a tree on the Glen Road.

Mr. Griffin, grandfather of Councillor Griffin, was one of the first to pole on the river here. He was of U. E. Loyalist descent. Having worked here for a few years, he returned to St. John, but later came back and settled in Cross Creek.

The first Company's store was a little below Mrs. Brown's house and was kept by Mr. Langan. Another was kept by Mr. Main on the front of the present Blair farm, about opposite their house. Mr. Main's house stood a little farther back.

In 1836 the Company brought the first lot of colonists to settle on. The terms of their contract was as follows...

1st -- The Company will engage to allot a farm of 100 acres

to each family, of which five acres shall be cleared and chopped with a comfortable log house built thereon ready for the reception of the family on their arrival at the settlement; of which a lease of 50 years will be granted, at the yearly rent of one shilling per acre, with an option to the tenant to purchase the freehold at twenty years purchase, at any time within the first ten years. Persons with capital desirous to settle, and who may wish to purchase larger tracts of land, will also be accommodated on liberal terms.

2nd -- The Company will ensure constant employment to such settlers as may wish to be employed, in making roads, clearing and draining land, building houses or on such other work as may be in process, by contract.

3rd -- The Company have established store-houses in the most convenient parts of the settlement from which the settlers will be supplied at fair and moderate prices with provisions, clothing, tools, implements and such other articles as they may require, and of the best quality.

4th -- The Company will provide at the proper season of the year, well found and approved ships for taking up immigrants at the most convenient ports, and for conveying them to New Brunswick, and will appoint experienced agents at the port of landing to superintend and forward immigrants without loss of time, to the Company's land. Medical aid will be secured on the passage, as well as in the settlement.

After a six weeks trip, these colonists landed at St. John, thence by boat to Fredericton and the balance of the way by teams. The road from Nashwaaksis was then passable but very rough so that the teamsters suggested leaving some of the luggage by the road-side, which was strenuously objected to.

When they reached the Inn, there was no room for them and the first night they slept in the loft of the big barn still standing on the Malone farm. One story tells that Black George an employee at the Inn, slept in an upper loft above the immigrants. In the early morning, he peered down at the new arrivals. One woman, probably having never seen a colored man before, shook her husband saying, "Look, Jock, there's the de'il". The greater number of these settlers settled on the Stanley Road, after known as the English Settlement. The land was laid out in contiguous lots of 100 acres, land cleared and houses built as called for by contract.

Col. Haynes, in a report in 1849, says, "I have much pleasure in adding that the immigrants from Berwick-on-Tweed and vicinity for most part reside on their original allotments and are doing well."

This shipload included Turnbills, Humbles, Grays, Dixons, Pringles, Curries, Jeffreys, Hossacks, Douglasses, Thos. Allen Kerr. Let us refer briefly to these families...

Mr. Robert Waugh was a man of superior education. He had been headmaster in the English schools and is said to have spoken eight languages fluently. He worked for the Company as a surveyor. The map of the township in 1857 was drawn by Mr. Waugh. He worked for the Company for some years, then took a farm on the Cross Creek Road where William Waugh now lives. When his two sons, Andrew and Robert, reached manhood, the farm was divided, Andrew retaining the old home, Robert settling on Ward Settlement end, where his son-in-law now lives. This son-in-law is Frank Good. Mr. Waugh came to a tragic end, having been overcome with the cold while travelling from Stanley to his home one bitter winter night.

Mr. Alex Turnbull still occupies his grandfather's (David Turnbull) farm. This is one of three farms still occupied by descendants of the original owners and the only one under the original name. One of David Turnbull's sons, William, remained on the homestead, one settled in Williamsburg, Harry remained in Stanley, the others settled in Michigan.

Another farm remaining in the family is James Foreman, on the Gray farm, the home of his mother.

The third is the old Pringle farm now owned by Bruce McNaughton and wife, both of whom are great-grandchildren of the original owner, William Pringle. He had been a gardener on one estate of the Duke of Northumberland. He brought his second wife, Margaret Appleby, and four sons, William, Thomas, Arthur and Gilbert, a babe of six months, also a daughter, Anne, afterwards wife of John Douglass 2nd. Thomas and William settled in Red Rock after that settlement was made as also did Arthur a few years later. Gilbert lived on the original farm until his death at the ripe age of 90 years. Mr. Thomas Pringle taught night school his first winter here. He was the first Councillor for Stanley, also Assessor and Tax Collector and first Secretary of the Agricultural Society.

Mr. John Douglass was a son of Lord Douglass, but had incurred his father's displeasure by marrying against his wishes. His wife was Isabel Wilson. Their family, John, Thomas and David, a grandson, John, and two daughters came with them. The oldest daughter was married and remained in England for some years. A large number of descendants remained both in the vicinity and in different parts of Canada and U.S.A.

A joke referring to the antiquity of the name has been published of late ... A modest Scotchman in speaking of his family said, "The Douglass family is a verra verra auld family. The line runs awa back into antiquity. We duina ken how far back it runs, but it is a lang, lang way back and the history of the Douglass's is recorded in five volume In about the middle of the third volume in a marginal note we read, 'About this time the world was created.'"

Mr. William Currie, his two sons, William and Robert, was another outstanding family. The son, William, remained on the old homestead until his death. One of his sons, George Currie of Cross Creek, is the only member of the family in this locality.

None of the descendants of Dixons, Humbles, Jeffries and Hossacks remain in the old settlement. The latter two families later settled in Williamsburg.

In Autumn of this year, a party of Scotch Settlers arrived and were placed in Scotch Settlement, a tract of land lying along the new road from Nashwaaksis, crossing the Tay, Seymour, Tin Kettle and Dunbar streams. The names I have found are McKinnons, McDonalds, two or three families, Davids, McGillivary and McDouals and Seymours. This probably gave name to the Seymour stream. These people were very unsuitable for emigrant. Many were fishermen from the Isle of Skye. They came under the leadership of Norman Nickolson. Social history names him a "bad man" who did not deal honestly with the people. The Company had not fulfilled their promises; the houses were, as I heard it expressed, thrown up like log fences. Without the proper housing, clothing and food, they spent a terrible winter. Forty died, and in the spring, the greater number moved away. The next summer, I find the names of Seymour and McDougal settled in the Company's houses here. The McKinnons moved to English Settlement. McKinnon and oldest son left home looking for work and were not heard from for some

time. Later, word was received that they went to the Island of Jamaica and both died there of yellow fever.

The Davidsons moved to English Settlement where the three girls married, Thomas Douglass, John Douglass and William Humble.

One family of McDonalds remained in the settlement alone until advancing age caused steps to be taken to move them to Stanley, and a house was built for them near the Peter Keenan home. Many will remember Mysie. Handicapped by results of a severe illness, she was long a noted character, but one from whom many might learn a lesson of industry, integrity and self-dependence, scorning assistance as long as she was able to earn a scanty living. The men had been shipheads in north of Scotland. Betsy had been well educated, a governess and spoke the purest Gaelic.

The next party of colonists to arrive was the Blue Boys, so called from the uniform, adopted by the pupils of Christ's Hospital at London, popularly known as the Blue Coat School. This was founded in 1553 by Edward VI for poor orphans and foundlings. These boys were John Thomas, remembered by many as an expert gardner. John Harvey, Mr. Cooper Mr. Bendall, killed in lumber woods in early manhood, George Linnal, George Howell, Chris Kelly. Mr. Bellamy who represented York in the Legislature the same session as Dr. Moore. Hon. Thomas Temple who later settled in Fredericton and was well known to you all. Bloom, who went to Tay Creek, where a well known hill bears his name. These boys were first kept at the Inn. Mrs. Malone told me it was only a few years ago that she threw out the little beds used by them.

In this year, the first bridge over the river was built. This was a fancy structure crossing the river near the mouth of Sand's Brook, then called Tan House Brook, from a tan house built on it. From the bridge, the road ran along this brook to the cold spring, then in an almost northeasterly direction to the Miramichi, where the Campbelltown was founded the next year after Stanley. A Mr. Boies was one of the earliest settlers there.

In October, 1837, another plan of Stanley drawn by Mr. Robert Waugh shows much work accomplished. The grist mill and oat kiln are now finished. The town lot is laid out in lots measuring 100 x 200 ft. with streets running east and

west between each row of lots. On west side of road were ten lots, thus the plot extended west 1000 ft. North and south were eight row of lots occupying 1600 ft. exclusive of the streets. The east side of the road contained double the number of plots. The occupiers of these lots were:

Messrs Palmer	J. McDougal
Wm. Stein	John Campbell
J. G. Ruel, Esq.	Robert Waugh
MacIntosh	Hugh Strawbridge
C. Peterson	Cremin
John McGeorge	James Duncan
James Duncan	R. Boucher
Intending to build:	In Company's houses:
William P. Kay, Esq.	Thompson
Messrs. James Elliot	Buchanan
Edward Pick	Thomas Langan
John Reid	W. Brett
George Atkinson	Jas. Elliot
Daniel Brewer	Dr. Toldervy
	Aaron Robertson
	John Bolton
	C. Seymour
	William Williams
	George Pelton
	(across river)

I presume the greater number of workmen at this time were men without families, who were in the men's boarding house or out in camps.

We also find a schoolhouse built on what is called the Church lot, above Havelock Kelly's and nearly opposite the present Episcopal Church. Mr. Raymond thus describes it, "The main body was built by the N.B. and N.S. Land Company as a schoolhouse in the early days of settlement. It was used for a while for a schoolhouse on weekdays and a church on Sundays. It was a building with low sides, the windows were six-foot wide and only about three feet in height and were fixed so as to swing on the centre and afford ventilation on warm days in summer. In winter, it needed no ventilation. The walls were pine boards, nearly two feet in width, painted white with subbase in red. I believe some additions were later added to this building and was used for church services until the present church was built and dedicated in Dec. 11th, 1880."

Dr. Hannay, in his history of N.B., tells us that another party arrived in Fredericton in 1837 intending to settle on the Company's land but the Company was unable to take care of them and the Provincial Government assisted them to settle along the road between Fredericton and St. Stephen. Probably this was the beginning of the Harvey Settlement, named in honour of Sir John Harvey, who succeeded Sir Archibald Campbell as Lieu. Gov. in 1837.

To pass on to 1844, we find the following notice, "The Company's commissioner will sell during 1844 and 1845 lots of land of 100 acres and 200 acres each, along the various lines of road and along the rivers which intersect the tract, at 5s. per acre. Larger portions of land may be purchased by special agreement with the commissioner one-fifth to be paid down, the purchaser to have an option to pay balance in four equal instalments.

To those who possess some means and are able to do so they advise bringing with them the following articles...

Clothing, bedding, linen for one year at least, culinary utensils, set light harness, spades, shovels and two scythes, six sickles and strong hoes, 2 prs. plow traces, iron work of plow and harrows, cast machinery of a corn fan, one jointer plane, one draw knife, six socket chisels, six gauges, one hand saw, two or three hammers, three or four augers, 1 1/2 inch, twelve gimlets, door hinges and latches, also early and hardy seed oats, barley, beans and peas, timothy and rye grass, red and white clover, carrots and turnips, a little winter wheat."

Good early wheat and potatoes could be obtained here.

From 1840 to 1855 or about this time, we find a large influx of home-seekers wishing to settle on the land. I will quote a few items from the Fredericton Loyalist, which may prove interesting.

"Married.

On Thursday morning, 27 ult. at Stanley in the Parish of St. Mary's, York Co. by Rev. J.W. D. Grey, rector of St. John, the Rev. J. Stoore, rector of the Parish of Cornwallis, N.S. to Milanie, youngest daughter of the late Rev. W. Hayne, Vicar of Plimpton, Devonshire, Eng.

On the 4th inst. by Rev. John M. Brooks of the St.

Paul's Church, Mr. Chas. Robbins to Miss Isabelle Winters,
Both of Stanley, York Co."

I may say that there was a family of Winters living on
the old Bustin farm, lately vacated by Edward Douglass.

"Birth.

At Stanley on 4th Oct. to the Lady of Col. R.
Hayne, a daughter."

"His Excellency Sir William Coldbrooke left Fredericton
on the steamer New Brunswick, accompanied by Lady Coldbrooke
and family and Col. Hayne, Prov. Aide-de-Camp, for St. John."

"Stanley, July 11th 1844.. At a jubilee public meeting
held in McGuire large room (Mr. McGuire was now running the
tavern) to consider the best way to raise funds to build a
new school house to accommodate the increasing number in
the settlement, it was proposed by E. L. Wigan, Esq. and
seconded by Mr. Anderson that a public subscription be
entered into to carry so praiseworthy and desirable an ob-
ject into immediate effect. It was proposed by Col. Hayne
and seconded by L. D. Wigan, Esq. that a convenient and
commodius school house be erected for the purpose on the
school allotment and that a committee of the following
gentlemen be appointed to obtain a plan and specifications
and see the work carried into completion, viz. Col. Hayne,
E. L. Wigan, Esq., Mr. Main.

Signed, E. L. Wigan, Trustee
Robert Waugh, Sec.

The names of contributors to the fund gives us an idea
of the residents at that time.

Sir William and Lady Colbrook	W. Logan
Mrs. and Miss Hayne	Jas. McLean
L.D. and E.L. Wigan	Jas. Anderson
Rev. Jas. Nealis	L. Langan
T. C. Foiss	Mr. and Mrs. Main
R. Waugh	Mr. Anderson
T. Wright	F. Campbell
J. Scott	Chas. Robbins
Wm. Webb	William Steen
R. Milligan	A. Jennings
J. Campbell	Mr. and Mrs. Plant
R. Day	C. Rogers
L. Kelly	J. Russel

T. Buchanan	R. McGuire
J. H. Reid	J. Malone
H. Stuart	G. Palton
N. Campbell	Jas. Elliot, Sr.
T. G. Jefferson	Jas. Elliot, Jr.
P. Warde	B. Elliot
G. Humble	J. Murray
T. Stinson	C. H. Rogers
B. Smith	J. Crotty
Mrs. Ryan	Jas. Runcorn
A. Kindred	T. Alien
A. McDougal	Jas. Welch
	R. Best

Total amount subscribed £45.6.0.

This schoolhouse is probably the one that was near the place where Harry Rogers now lives and was later burned. Mr. Kelly says this was the first school he attended, but thinks there was probably a temporary one near the corner of Blair's field while this was being built.

In 1844 is recorded an accident which occurred on the hill above Alex Turnbull home opposite the old Humble Farm now occupied by Theodore Foreman.

"On Sunday May 19th, Lieut. Carden, 52nd fo-- stationed in Fredericton was driving in a carriage to Stanley accompanied by Messrs. Wigan of Stanley and an officer of the 33rd, coming down the hill the traces became entangled and the horses became unmanagable and the four young men were pitched out of the wagon. The others were severely bruised, one had a broken arm, but Lieut. Carden fell with his head on a stone which caused concussion of the brain and he never recovered consciousness. He was taken to the residence of Col. Hayne where he only lived a few hours."

The Wigans were often spoken of by the older people. They were probably a family with some means who came to speculate. They owned the land now owned by Warren Malone, and carried on extensive farming and lumbering operations for a number of years. A nice home was built but was burned and the present home built as a temporary home.

Dr. Jem came out with the Company. Have understood he lived in or near the Stanley Arms. He evidently moved to Grand Manan, where a resident saw him in the late sixties.

Dr. James Nealis in the early days lived in Cross Creek, near Robert Kirlin. Dr. Nealis was a qualified physician having attended the physical needs of the people for some time. He also qualified for the Ministry. Several sons later entered the ministry. One of the sons is the first baptism recorded on the Episcopal Church register. The late Mr. Andrew Douglass having been baptised the same day.

In 1845, Rev. Mr. Stuart succeeded Dr. Nealis as rector of the Episcopal Church. This year he baptised Col. Hayne's daughter.

In this year, Bishop Medley was appointed to the Diocese of New Brunswick. A few weeks after his arrival in Fredericton, he came to Stanley and dedicated Saint Thomas Church probably named after his church at home. This was the first church he dedicated after his arrival here. He also at the time dedicated the Episcopal Cemetery on the hill. Col. Squire Pidgeon was one who assisted at this ceremony.

Also in 1845 at a meeting of the Directors of the N.B. and N.S. Land Co. in England, Col. Hayne was authorized to make good the road from Stanley to Taymouth, a distance of nine miles, at an expenditure of £160.

In 1855 Alexander Munro published a history of New Brunswick, etc. Quoting a letter from Col. Hayne, he states 3,500 acres of land cleared and in cultivation in Stanley, Cross Creek and Red Rock. He also gives weight of grain raised there:

Wheat	Oats	Buckwheat	Peas
66 lbs. bus.	50	53	66

Mr. Charles Robbins was another early settler but we have not the date. He was an Englishman, had served his seven years apprenticeship as carpenter and millwright before coming out. He took a plot of 21 acres and built back near Exhibition building. He married in 1844 and all the family were born before he moved into the house now owned by Jean Moore, but then standing where the brick house is now. Later he exchanged with Mr. Moore for the Cross Creek mill, then owned by Demerill and Moore. This mill is still run by a grandson, Chas. Robbins.

Bests came from Ireland to U.S.A. in 1741. Settled in

N.S. with U.E.L. after War of Independence. Richard Best came to Stanley in 1841.

It was the custom of the Company to donate prizes for the best kept farms on most cleared land each year.

In 1848 we find prize-winners included Henry Rogers and Thomas Jeffrey. The next year winners were:

- 1st Geo. White
- 2nd Angus Boies.
- 3rd Wm. Currie
- 4th Benson Smith
- 5th Wm. Pringle

The other competitors were Henry Rogers, David McLean, Geo. Humble, Thos. Jeffrey, Geo. Jeffrey, David Turnbull, Thos. Douglass, Thom. Bartlett, Jesse Clark, Jas. Duncan, Chas. Robbins.

This year, 1849, the Imperial Gov't sent out F. W. Johnson to examine the Agricultural possibilities of N.B. In his report he says: "When I have heard the people of N.B. complaining of the slowness with which the Province advanced, I have felt persuaded that the natural impatience of a young people to become great is like that of a young man to become rich was blinding them to the actual rate at which their country was going forward, a rate so different from what is to be found in any other part of the old World, except the Island home from which we came."

The farmers may be interested in the prices (market) of a few articles, copied from some report:

1846	St. John Market
Oats	1s. 9d. to 8s.
Potatoes	3d. to 6s.
Butter	10d. to 1-3d.
Eggs	10d. to 13d.

In answer to questionnaires to farmers in all parts of the Prov. for estimates of amount of butter per cow for a season, a very few reported 112 lbs., most from 50 to 100 lbs.

The mills were conducted by the Co. for some years, then 1st to different parties, as Mr. Jas. Clarkson, Mr. Robbins and Mr. Wiggins. In 1856 they were bought by James and John Sansom, Welsh, who came here from the Welch Settlement at Cardigan, York Co. Later this mill was burned and Mr. John

Sansom rebuilt. A few years later, the two Sansoms, sons of James and John, built near the centre of the stream. This mill was sold to Scarr and Boyd and was destroyed by fire the next year, 1884. In 1880, the Sansom mill was burned. He and his sons rebuilt the next year. Later the mill passed into the hands of Mr. Andrew Douglass. After his death, Mr. Stanley Douglass took charge. It was again burned but he rebuilt and later sold to the Nashwaak Pulp and Paper Co. Earlier Mr. Yerxa had a mill at the mouth of Sand's Brook.

The Agricultural Society was first a branch of the Fredericton Society. The first Fair was held about 1858, but the exact place is not known as they were held in different places. In 1859, it became a separate Society under charter signed by S. L. Tilley. Col. Hayne was the first President, Mr. Thos. Pringle was the first Secretary. In 1859 the total prizes awarded amounted to £10 or £12. Some of those who took a great interest in the Society were Mr. John Thomas, Mr. Benson Smith, Mr. Spears, Mr. John Douglass, Mr. Gilbert Pringle, Mr. Currie, Mr. John Reid and others.

In 1888 the present Agricultural buildings were erected and they have been enlarged and extended until now we believe we have a plant not excelled by any in any Agricultural community in the Province. Value nearly \$10,000. Last year 3,500 entrance tickets were sold. This does not include children as all school children are admitted free. About 15 years ago, there were about 18 or 20 exhibitors, now 95 or 100.

In the medical field, we have already mentioned Dr. Toldervy, Dr. J. Nealis, Dr. Jem, Dr. Jacobs, also practiced here having his office in Mr. Plant's house which was burned and a new one erected by Mr. Blair.

Dr. Bustin also practiced here. He belonged to an old English family and bought from Mr. Winters the farm lately vacated by Edward Douglass. Dr. Bustin had studied medicine but had not qualified as a practitioner, but in the absence of a qualified physician, he was often called to the assistance of the sick and injured, which assistance was cheerfully given and much endeared him to the people.

Dr. Moore was born in Ontario but came to Stanley when a boy and received the greater part of his education here. Having received his diploma, he settled here where his energy and skill as a surgeon soon established a large practice.

He lived up to the very best traditions of "a country Doctor" and spared neither himself nor his horse in responding to the calls of the suffering and often, when the snow was too deep for his horse, he took his snowshoes and finished the trip. He gave the village its first Railroad service, having built the Branch from Cross Creek to Stanley. The first train passed over it in 1901. This line was later extended to Ryan Brook where another sawmill was being built and run by Deming and Son. He also gave the village its first telephone service, building a line at his own expense connecting with the N.B. Tel. Co. at Fredericton. About 1900, Dr. Sterling came but a few years later, 1906, removed to Cross Creek. In 1914, he enlisted and after the close of the war, removed to Fredericton. He also erected a telephone line through Williamsburg and Cross Creek, connecting in Stanley with a line from Red Rock. Dr. Wainwright also had a line through to Tay Creek. Other Doctors who have ministered to the peoples' ills are Dr. Cameron, Dr. Gregory, Dr. Tupper, Dr. Schwartz, Dr. Zinck and others.

Our present physician, Dr. Folkins, has ministered faithfully to his patients for about 25 years and we hope he may be with us many more.

I have already referred to the first Episcopal Church built by the Company, also to the present church built in 1889, and the early visit of Dean Inglis and Bishop Medley ten years later. The Rectory was built in early '80's.

I find no Presbyterian service held in Stanley until the schoolhouse near Harry Rogers was built about 1845. As there was no resident minister on the Stanley-Nashwaak circuit from 1836 till Mr. Keay came in 1855, there was at least only an occasional service by a visiting clergyman. Mr. Keay remained here until 1868 which was the year that the first Pres. Church was built. In 1885 the present manse was built under the Pastorate of Rev. Mr. Mullin. The present church was dedicated Dec., 1895, the Rev. J. S. Mullin was pastor. Soon after the burial ground was secured. In 1925, when the question of church union was voted on, a large majority decided against union.

The Methodist Church was built in 1874, largely due to the efforts of Mr. Howe and Mr. Gilmore. In 1904 the Parsonage was built. In 1913 it was thought necessary to move the Church to its present position and renovate it. A few years later, the cemetery was bought along the Cross Creek Road.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was first offered up in Stanley by Father McSweeney from Fredericton in 1836 in the large guest room at the tavern kept by Mr. Maguire. Father McSweeney died May, 1836.

Father Dollard, the next pastor of Fredericton, made yearly visits for the same purpose. He secured a dwelling situated in what is now the old Cemetery and converted it into a chapel dedicated to Saint Patrick. In 1842, Father Dollard was named Bishop of N.B. by Pope Gregory XII and moved to Saint John in 1848. Father McDavitt was next pastor of F'ton and in turn, with his curates, Father Welch, McManus, Priscillus and Bradley made yearly visits to Stanley. The present church was completed in 1870 by Father McDevitt on land given by James Malone. More land adjoining was bought from Wm. Logan and the church moved back on its present site. The following names are of the pioneers who made up the congregation: Murray, Campbell (Neil and John), Elliot, Malone, McAloon, O'Leary, Kirby, Sullivan, McDonald, Keenan, Crotty, McRae, Taylor, Ryan, Steen, Brown, McCarron, Nowlan, Kirlin, McMinnimum.

In 1885 the Parish of St. Mary's (Devon) was separated from Fredericton and the history from that time duly recorded

The first bridge was built a light fancy structure of English type, not strong enough to stand the swift current and was swept away and a new one built where the present one now stands. During the building of the bridge, Mr. Rosborough and John Elliot were drowned when they tried to stop a drifting log which they feared would injure the bridge. The bridge was finished by Mr. John Robbins. This was in use until a team went through the floor. It was repaired for a time but a new one was built. This one was carried off the piers when the dam broke in a big freshet in the spring of 1902 and the present bridge was built.

Giant's Glen was settled in early years of Stanley and was so called in sarcasm or as a joke because many of the first settlers were small men.

Limekiln takes its name from a deposit of limestone which was burned in kilns for building purposes. The earliest road left the Stanley Road near Sansom's store, crossed the low land till near the exhibition buildings when it wound east of the brook out through the Meek clearing (a clearing made by a man of that name), and thence to Tay

Creek. Most of the early settlers built back of that road at first. A Mr. Simms, Mr. Kerr and Mr. Bidens in 1845.

The present road to Tay Creek was built in 1860. About this time, the Thorburns and Wilkinsons (1859) settled there.

In 1850 Red Rock was opened up for settlement. Some of the early settlers were Hoods, Douglass, McCombe, McKinnons, McGeorge, O'Donnell, Craig, Buchanan, Pringle. In 1854 a new settler arrived. I refer to Mrs. Taylor, a daughter of the first Mr. Douglass, who came with the English colonists. She was married and remained in England when the rest of the family immigrated. Being now a widow with one son and five daughters, she joined the relatives here, also bringing her father's brother. She bought the Montgomery farm and, with her uncle and hired help, made quite a success of farming. She brought with her the first pure-bred sheep in Stanley -- Leicesters -- and from this stock, Stanley sheep became quite noted.